

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PEKING 00651 141237Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /031 W

-----100661 142106Z /73

R 100908Z MAR 78

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0096

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS PEKING 0651

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR TPHY CH

SUBJ: WEATHER OBSERVATIONS IN PRC

1. USLO OFFICER TRAVELING FROM HONG KONG TO PEKING BY RAIL REPORTED HEAVY PRECIPITATION IN HONG KONG ON MARCH 4 (THE FIRST HEAVY RAINFALL IN THAT AREA IN RECENT MONTHS), WHICH EXTENDED INTO SOUTHERN KWANGTUNG PROVINCE.

2. HIS CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE GUIDE IN CANTON ON MARCH 5 STATED THAT IT HAD BEEN RAINING AND DRIZZLING IN CANTON FOR THREE DAYS. ON MARCH 6, THE CANTON AIRPORT WAS CLOSED ON ACCOUNT OF BAD WEATHER.

3. FROM THE TRAIN HE OBSERVED ON MARCH 6 THAT CHUCHOU, CHANGSHA AND YUEHYANG AREAS OF HUNAN PROVINCE HAD EXPERIENCED RECENT HEAVY RAIN. THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF FLOODING IN SOME FIELDS, HEAVY GROUND WATER AND FULL RESERVOIRS AND PONDS.

4. FROM YUEHYANG, HUNAN, TO WUHAN, HUPEH, HE OBSERVED STANDING WATER IN THE FIELDS, BUT APPARENTLY LESS RAIN HAD FALLEN THAN IN THE AREA FURTHER SOUTH.

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5. LITTLE RAIN APPEARED TO HAVE FALLEN BETWEEN WUHAN AND THE HUPEH/HONAN BORDER.

6. LIGHT RAIN FELL IN PEKING ON NIGHT OF MARCH 7. TEMPERATURE ON NIGHT OF MARCH 9 DROPPED TO 21 DEGREES F (FROM ABOUT 50 DEGREES AT MID-DAY). MINIMUM TEMPERATURES

IN LOW 20'S FORECAST FOR NEXT FEW DAYS.

DEAN

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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